CARDINALS, STEELERS IN SUPER BOWL, PG 12

World pg 6

Happy news amid global financial crisis

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VANCOUVER • MONDAY, JANUARY 19, 2009 metronews.ca

Celebrity Buzz

Winehouse vows to fight divorce

pg 18

Part 2 of inquiry into YVR Tasering set to begin today

BRAIDWOOD The second part of a public inquiry into the death of a Polish immigrant Tasered at Vancouver International Airport begins this morning.

Dozens of witnesses, including passengers and the four RCMP officers involved, are expected to recount the events leading to Robert Dziekanski's death during this six-week part of the Braidwood Inquiry.

Dzienkanki's Tasering and subsequent death were seen around the world after a passenger at YVR taped the incident and posted it on the Internet. The RCMP said the officers involved will not face charges.

The first part of the inquiry, which was held last year, examined the use of Tasers and their safety. METRO VANCOUVER

JEFF HODSON/METRO VANCOUVER

A firefighter walks beneath the Pattullo Bridge in Surrey yesterday morning. It could be closed for up to six weeks.

Fire closes Pattullo

JEFF HODSON
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The Pattullo Bridge connecting Surrey with New Westminster could be closed for as long as six weeks, TransLink said after a wooden trestle leading onto the aging bridge was damaged in a suspicious fire yesterday.

The bridge, which is used daily by 80,000 motorists, will remain closed until the damaged 18-metre wood trestle is knocked down and replaced, said TransLink spokesman Ken Hardie. The process is expected to take between a month and six weeks.

"It was quite fierce," said Hardie of the fire that started around 3 a.m. yesterday. "There were flames shooting up from underneath the bridge on both sides of the roadway."

At mid-morning, smoke and steam still billowed from beneath the bridge as a pair of firefighters battled a smouldering section between the wood trestle and the asphalt of King George Highway.

The damaged section will be demolished shortly and reconstruction will begin as soon as possible, based on the completion of a final design and the availability of materials, Hardie said.

A meeting was also held yesterday afternoon to look at traffic management and transit options for commuters.

Motorists should expect additional congestion and longer travel times, and commuters crossing the Fraser should expect delays and crowding, TransLink said.

SkyTrain will begin service at 4:30 a.m. and will add between two and four additional trains in peak periods. More buses will be added along routes servicing SkyTrain.

In addition to forcing tens of thousands of cars onto the Port Mann and Alex Fraser bridges, the closure could impact trauma patients on the Surrey side who would normally be taken to Royal Columbian Hospital in New Westminster.

Kristy Hillen, a spokeswoman for the B.C. Ambulance Service, said additional ambulances would be added to the Surrey side as the potential impact of the bridge closure was analyzed.

Original part

- The wood section between the steel bridge and the footing is part of the original 1937 bridge. It allows engineers to adjust the bridge as the riverbank shifts.

VANCOUVER 2010 **Games**

20-hour sitting passes bill for Village bailout

LEGISLATION Vancouver was granted borrowing authority to ensure the completion of its Olympic Village at Southeast False Creek yesterday morning, following an exhaustive 20-hour legislative sitting.

The legislation — which amends the city's charter, allowing it to borrow $458 million to finish the athletes' village development without a city referendum — was introduced at noon Saturday during an extraordinary sitting of the House called specifically to pass the bill.

Debate raged through the night and Bill 47 passed unanimously just after 8:30 a.m. yesterday.

New Democrat Leader Carole James said the government was trying to avoid public scrutiny and questions by recalling the legislature on a weekend (avoiding question period) and by ramming the bill through in one sitting.

"I'm proud of the job we did," James said.

"We used all the rules possible to keep the legislature going through the night into the early hours of the morning."

James blasted the government for refusing to "come clean about the full cost of the Olympics" and what taxpayers "are on the hook for."

Community Development Minister Blair Lekstrom, who introduced the bill, said the legislation will "give Vancouver the tools it needs to negotiate the best possible deals for city taxpayers."

JEFF HODSON/METRO VANCOUVER

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Entertainment pg 16

Horror more than 3-D gag

Comment pg 8

SkyTrain users vote with feet

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B.C. skier wins World Cup medal
Canada won its first medal in a World Cup men's cross-country ski team sprint yesterday. Rossland, B.C., native George Grey and his teammate Alex Harvey, from Quebec, finished third. The Swedish team captured gold. **CBC.CA/BC**

Local

City seeks charter changes for Games

Vancouver wants to amend its city charter for the Olympic Games. The proposed amendments, which come before council tomorrow, include regulating advertising and signage on streets and in parks, as well as temporary street closures. Other changes involve city noise control and removing graffiti and illegal signage on private property on short notice.
METRO VANCOUVER

News in brief

STABBING Vancouver police are searching for at least one suspect in the stabbing of two boys, aged 16 and 19, cknw.com reports. They were attacked on East 15th Avenue Saturday night and treated in hospital.

CHARGES An angry guest who was asked to leave a wedding in Abbotsford is facing charges after allegedly returning and firing more than eight rounds into the hosts' home, news1130.com reports. No one was hurt in the drive-by shooting. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

metronews.ca
WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

Video Omar Khadr's fate up in the air as Gitmo closure looms at **metronews.ca/canada**

Lotteries

Friday, Jan. 16 Lotto Super 7: 9, 11, 15, 16, 31, 39 & 47 Bonus 12 **Extra:** 6, 22, 33, 96
Saturday, Jan. 17 Lotto 6/49: 8, 12, 20, 28, 39 & 47 Bonus 10 **BC 49:** 12, 21, 27, 28, 37 & 43 Bonus 16 **Extra:** 36, 44, 56, 64
These results are not official.

Vancouverites await history

KRISTEN THOMPSON
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Vancouver's streets might be emptier than usual for tomorrow morning's commute, as people across the city tune in to watch Barack Obama become the first African-American president of the United States.

It's a moment Paul Kerston, a U.S.-born Vancouverite and member of Democrats Abroad Vancouver, says he's been waiting for his whole life.

"I'm sitting here getting goose bumps," Kerston said yesterday.

"In Vancouver, I know a lot of people are going to be glued to their sets. Some of them are just not going to be at work early."

Kerston said it will be a "huge" moment for him.

"I'm old enough to remember the assassination of Martin Luther King. So I've personally lived what this is a beginning of, overcoming (exactly what) Martin Luther King said we would."

KRISTEN THOMPSON/METRO VANCOUVER
Paul Kerston, a member of Democrats Abroad Vancouver, outside his west-end home yesterday.

United States
Presidential
Inauguration

Kerston said the inauguration will also mark the culmination of months of work on the part of Democrats Abroad to see Obama elected.

Some members campaigned over the phone, while others travelled south of the border to campaign door-to-door.

Tonight, members of Democrats Abroad Vancouver will be volunteering at First United Church on East Hastings Street as part of Obama's call for all Americans to participate in public on Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

A program with speakers will start at 7:30 p.m. at the church, and will include Coun. Heather Deal.

Democrats Abroad

- Democrats Abroad is a worldwide organization sanctioned by the Democratic Party of the United States.

MLA to retire after cancer diagnosis

PUCHMAYR Chuck Puchmayr, NDP MLA for New Westminster, announced yesterday he won't be seeking re-election in May because he's been diagnosed with liver cancer.

SUBMITTED PHOTO
Chuck Puchmayr

"It has become clear in the past few days that I must dedicate all of my energy in the coming weeks and months to this battle," Puchmayr said.

"It has been a tremendous honour to serve the people of New Westminster as their MLA, and as city councillor for nine years prior to that."

Carole James, leader of the B.C. NDP party, said Puchmayr has been an "extraordinary" representative for New West.

"I have no doubt he'll face this like he's faced everything else — with good humour and strength." **METRO VANCOUVER**

Decision on Hollow Tree expected tonight

The fate of Vancouver's popular Hollow Tree will finally be determined by city council tonight. The Stanley Park Hollow Tree Conservation Society has been raising funds for two years to save the historic landmark from being axed. METRO VANCOUVER

Weekend sees 2 more deaths in avalanches

KRISTEN THOMPSON
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Two snowmobilers who died in separate avalanches in northern British Columbia have brought the number of people killed in B.C. slides this winter to 15.

Twelve of those victims have been snowmobilers.

Police yesterday identified the man killed in Friday's avalanche near Valemount, just west of the Alberta border, as a 33-year-old Edmonton man.

His name has not been released at the request of his family.

"The six other members of his group located him using beacons, but could not revive him," said RCMP Const. Craig Douglass. "The group was all equipped with avalanche gear."

The following day, another snowmobiler, whose identity hasn't been released, was killed in a slide on Babcock Mountain near Tumbler Ridge, southwest of Dawson Creek.

He had been sledding with five other snowmobilers who were out of the path of the slide when it hit.

News in brief

FIRE No one was hurt following a fire in Coquitlam early yesterday, news1130.com reports. A truck parked near a home caught fire, and the blaze spread to the house, causing about $50,000 in damages. The cause is under investigation.

INJURY A transit police officer was hospitalized with a head wound after he fell down an escalator while pursuing a fare evader. The suspect, who had a steak knife on him and was allegedly resisting arrest, was Tasered. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Yogi moves on to worlds

TARYN MCELHERAN
for Metro Vancouver

YOGA A Victoria yogi contorted her way to first place at a championship held in North Vancouver yesterday.

Ida Ripley and three other winners at the sixth annual Western Canadian Hatha Yoga Championship at Capilano College are eligible to compete at the world championships in Los Angeles this February.

Ripley has come out on top for the five years she has been in the competition.

"The biggest reason I do this competition is to teach myself that anything is possible and that applies to yoga and the rest of my life," she said.

Brad Colwell, organizer and owner of Bikram's Yoga Metrotown, was pleased with the turnout.

"The first year it brought out 12 competitors and 20 viewers and obviously this year there are over 20 competitors and 300 plus people, so it has definitely expanded," he said.

KRISTEN THOMPSON/METRO VANCOUVER

A competitor holds a pose for the judges at the Western Canadian Hatha Yoga Championship at Capilano College yesterday.

Woman dies in apartment blaze

NORTH VANCOUVER One woman has died in a North Vancouver apartment fire, according to RCMP investigators.

The building housed more than 35 tenants — mostly seniors — and was nearly destroyed by the intense heat, flames and water damage.

A 911 call around 10:14 p.m. Friday reported the fire was spreading quickly.

Firefighters continued to battle the blaze until the following day at the apartment located on 1033 St. Georges Ave.

Arson investigators are working to determine the cause.

TARYN MCELHERAN/
FOR METRO VANCOUVER

News in brief

SENTENCE Jessie Paul Sanghera, who killed a Surrey teenager in a hit-and-run, has been given a conditional sentence of house arrest and a two-year driving ban, news1130.com reports. The 31-year-old Sanghera's father has also been charged for allegedly filing false reports with police and ICBC.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Picture drawn by Putin fetches big bucks

A picture sketched by Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin has fetched 37 million roubles ($1.15 million US) at a charity auction. The painting of snowfall seen through a window, finished by a professional artist, features a sprawling "Putin" signature. REUTERS

Canada/World

Canadians have mixed hopes for Obama: Poll

Most Canadians believe Barack Obama will improve the image of America around the world, but many doubt he will be able to keep some of his biggest promises, a new poll has found.

A Toronto Star/Angus Reid survey found 79 per cent of Canadians believe the next U.S. president will succeed in boosting the battered reputation of his country, but fewer think he will be able to overcome some of the challenges to get him there.

The online survey showed only 27 per cent of respondents believe Obama will withdraw all combat troops from Iraq in 16 months, with 31 per cent believing he will fail and 41 per cent unsure.

27 The percentage of poll respondents who believe Obama will withdraw all combat troops from Iraq in 16 months.

They were more optimistic about his promise to shut down the U.S. military prison at Guantanamo Bay, with 49 per cent of respondents believing he'll succeed, 14 per cent believing he'll fail and 37 per cent not sure.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

CHRIS WATTIE/REUTERS

Interim Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff speaks during a caucus meeting on Parliament Hill in Ottawa yesterday.

Liberals warn Conservatives against tax cuts in budget

OTTAWA Arguing that a recession is not the time to cut income taxes, the federal Liberals yesterday served notice to Prime Minister Stephen Harper that he is risking his government if he goes ahead with across-the-board cuts.

Harper, whose Conservative government will stand or fall based on what's in the Jan. 27 budget, has said the economic rescue package being prepared for the budget must include tax breaks for middle-class Canadians, whose spending can help revive the economy.

The Liberals are opposed to making tax cuts the centrepiece of the budget, especially since Canadians may not spend the money they save through the cuts, which would deprive the economy of the sought-after stimulus.

Interim Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff signalled yesterday the party is prepared to dump the Conservative minority if the budget is inadequate.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Goat accidentally hangs itself at zoo

ALBERTA An exotic goat at the Calgary Zoo accidentally hanged itself after it became entangled in a rope and fell off a log, CTV reported yesterday.

The accident was the latest in a series of deaths at the zoo. Last November, an elephant calf died of a virus, and in May 2008, 41 stingrays died for reasons that have yet to be explained. REUTERS

Tentative truce called in Gaza

Hamas announced an immediate ceasefire in the Gaza Strip yesterday and gave Israel, which had already declared a unilateral truce, a week to pull its troops out of the territory following a three-week war.

There was shooting from both sides after their separate announcements, but broadly the ceasefire appeared to be gaining strength and Israeli troops began pulling out of Gaza, which they entered on Jan. 3, a week after an air offensive began.

"We don't want to stay in Gaza, and we intend to leave it as soon as possible," Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert said.

Troops and tanks could be seen streaming back over the border from Gaza from early on yesterday, all but ending combat after a 22-day conflict in which more than 1,300 Palestinians were killed. Ten Israeli soldiers and three civilians also died.

In Gaza, families began emerging from their places of hiding and returning to their homes.

Hamas, whose rocket fire Israel said triggered its assault, announced its ceasefire about 12 hours after Israel's own move and said its Islamist allies in Gaza would also adhere to it.

Yet despite the signs of the ceasefire gaining momentum, there still remains no formal deal between Israel and Hamas.

REUTERS

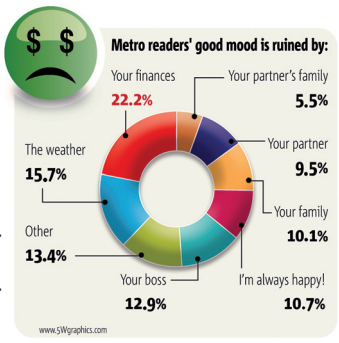
Infrastructure damage

- According to the Palestinian Statistics Bureau, some 4,000 residential buildings have been reduced to rubble.
- Western diplomats have said it could cost at least $1.6 billion US to repair the infrastructure damage in Gaza.

Crisis won't affect happiness: Expert

STUDY Happiness can survive the blows of financial crises, says Ruut Veenhoven who has been studying happiness for more than 25 years.

"Whether the financial crisis has made people less happy, one can only tell when the crisis is over," said the director of the World Database of Happiness, a register of scientific research on the subjective enjoyment of life.



"It's not very likely, because the previous economic crisis didn't have effects on happiness," the professor of sociology at Erasmus University in Rotterdam told Metro.

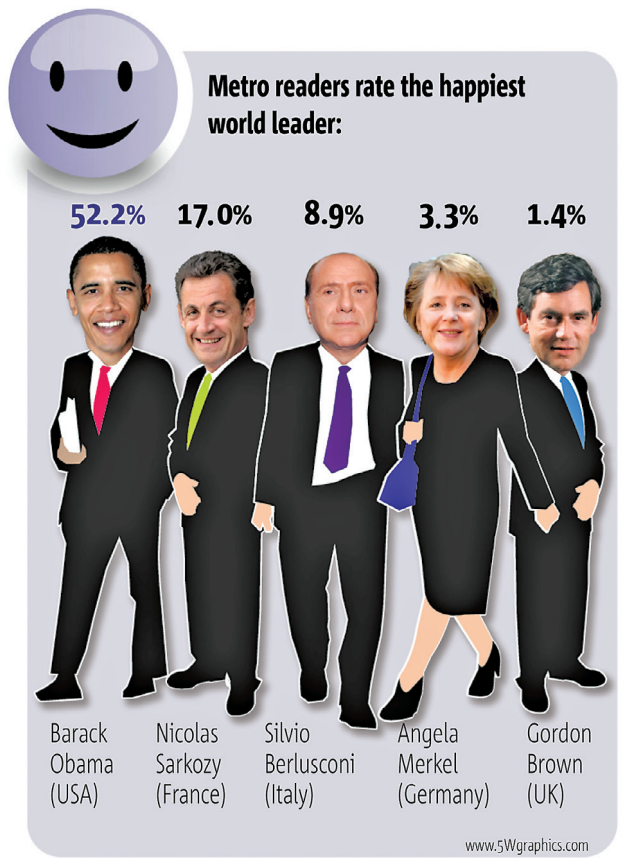
"I'm talking about the crisis between 1980 and 1982. That was a considerable recession with unemployment in the Netherlands increasing to half a million people.

"In 1989, a couple of colleagues and I did research on how this crisis had a negative effect on the happiness of the average citizen. There was hardly any effect. People were a little more worried about their income, but not less content with their lives as a whole.

"The sale of tranquilizers didn't rise and doctors were not confronted with more patients with psychosomatic complaints.

"Apparently, mankind is strong enough to cope."

METRO WORLD NEWS



Obama celebratory, solemn as he nears inauguration

WASHINGTON Barack Obama approached his inauguration as the 44th U.S. president with a mix of solemnity and celebration yesterday, laying a wreath at a military grave and then swaying along at a concert featuring Bruce Springsteen and Beyonce.

Walking side by side, Obama and vice-president-elect Joe Biden placed a wreath at Arlington National Cemetery's Tomb of the Unknowns before braving a cold day to take in a concert on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial.

United States Presidential **Inauguration**

As Obama prepared to be sworn in tomorrow, he stressed the depth of the challenges that he faces, including the recession and the unfinished wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, but said he was optimistic about the country's ability to face them.

"Despite the enormity of the task that lies ahead, I stand here today as hopeful as ever that the United States of America will endure," he said.

"I stand here today as hopeful as ever."
Barack Obama

REUTERS

News in brief

SEARCH Arthur Nadel, a Florida investment manager who allegedly disappeared with what could be hundreds of millions of dollars of other people's money, remained missing yesterday as the FBI and the Securities and Exchange Commission joined in the investigation against him.

IRAQ A suicide bomber yesterday killed the deputy leader of Iraq's second-biggest Sunni Arab political bloc, the Iraqi National Dialogue Front, as he and other politicians met to discuss an upcoming provincial election, the party's leader said.

REUTERS

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Comment & Views

Comment

Put on your boogie shoes

HineSight

Anne Hines

A while back I did a column on "wise things said by people who aren't me."

Given the success of this piece (someone mentioned that they'd read it), I now present: Wise Words, Installment #2.

First up, playwright and style-slave of the Victorian age, Oscar Wilde, who, on his deathbed in the home of a friend, famously announced, "Charles, either these curtains go, or I do."

Wilde also said, "Fashion is merely a form of ugliness so unbearable that we are compelled to alter it every six months."

I would disagree with this entirely if it weren't for gladiator shoes and the 1980s. Also, the only way I'm going to make it onto anyone's best-dressed list is if Home Workers Monthly runs a "ratty bathrobe issue."

Next, historian and Harvard professor, Laurel Thatcher Ulrich, who said: "Well-behaved women rarely make history."

They do, however, get invited to dinner parties and asked to join book clubs.

Life's a trade-off, eh?

From an Old Chinese proverb: "It is better to light a single candle than to curse the darkness."

Cursing the electric company, however, is entirely OK.

Legendary actor W.C. Fields: "If at first you don't succeed, try, try again. Then quit. There's no use being a damn fool about it."

Words to live by. Particularly if you're a) a person trying to get a date or b) a national political party trying to get a majority.

Next, from an anonymous source: "No one in all society is so underrated, disregarded and underpaid as the plucky humour columnist." I just can't imagine who said this. It's got a ring of truth though, doesn't it?

Lastly, wise words from Fredrick Nietzsche. Nietzsche was born in Germany in the mid-1800s and undertook a career as a philogist. He abandoned this, possibly upon realizing that no one knew what the heck a philogist was.

He then became a philosopher somehow thinking this would be a more profitable career choice. Some guys can't win.

As a philosopher, Nietzsche offered such insights as, "Existence is an imperfect tense that never becomes a present." To which we can only respond, "Um … what?" He also said, "It is my ambition to say in 10 sentences what others say in a whole book." Clearly, this is a man who didn't get the concept of "royalties."

However, I forgive Nietzsche everything for saying, "We should consider every day lost in which we have not danced at least once."

It doesn't get any wiser than that.

Anne Hines is an author and humour writer. She has written three novels and one collection of nonfiction humour.

MICHAEL DE ADDER

Worth mentioning

'No God' bus ads banned in Italian city

Italian atheists have lost a bid to run "no God" advertisements on city buses after strong opposition from conservative political parties, a member of the group said Saturday.

The ads reading "The bad news is that God doesn't exist. The good news is that you don't need him" were to have been put on buses in the northern city of Genoa, home to the Catholic cardinal who is head of the Italian Bishops Conference.

The mock-up was ready and the contract was sent to the group for signing, but the publicity agency changed its mind and said the ad could not run because it violated an ethics in advertising code, according to Giorgio Villella of The Italian Union of Atheists and Rationalist Agnostics.

"Right-wing politicians criticized us ferociously," Villella said by telephone from the group's base, adding that at least one bus driver in Genoa said he would refuse to drive a "no God" bus. "It's strange in a country where ads depicting near-naked women wearing skimpy lingerie (are) permitted on buses, that we can't run ads about atheism," Villella said.

"It's strange in a country where ads depicting near-naked women … (are) permitted on buses, that we can't run ads about atheism."
Giorgio Villella

Villella said the group's lawyers would likely file an appeal to court to overturn the decision and the group would try to run the ads in other Italian cities.

Atheists in Barcelona, London and Washington have already run "no God" ads on city buses. REUTERS

Views

SkyTrain service still considered a winner

InTransit

Derek Moscato

dmoscato@yahoo.com

Last week, the first of 48 new light metro cars arrived at SkyTrain's headquarters in Burnaby. Sporting a refreshing blue-and-grey design, the SkyTrain vehicles are visually impressive.

More importantly, they have increased passenger capacity. So, their addition should be a big plus for commuters, who have made SkyTrain a popular — and at times strained — transit system.

But even as Metro Vancouver's transit authority un-shrinkwraps and test-drives the sleek cars, a vocal chorus of SkyTrain boobirds are quick to trash this region's choice of rapid rail.

These naysayers argue that — due to its cost and form — the region should forego SkyTrain in the future, in favour of less-intrusive light rail transit, or even more buses.

You can bet these carpers will be at the Vancouver Public Library this Wednesday evening for a Langara College-organized public debate pitting SkyTrain bashers against boosters.

But here's why SkyTrain should be embraced as the system of choice for rapid transit expansion in Metro Vancouver.

When it comes to public transport, people vote with their feet. Higher costs notwithstanding, transit users appreciate SkyTrain's speed, durability and separation from traffic.

Judging by the standing-room-only crowds during rush hour, the system is a winner — whether the critics will admit to it or not.

"When it comes to public transport, people vote with their feet."

• • •

Union leader Jim Houlahan, who represents bus drivers with Coast Mountain Bus Company, has made noise recently about the jump in TransLink's annual operating budget — from roughly $800 million in 2007 to the current $1.3 billion.

He points out — quite fairly, in my opinion — improvements in transit service hardly match the dramatic spike in spending.

And commuters are still dealing with a region-wide bus crunch.

Case in point: For two consecutive days last week, I was unable to board the No. 44 bus, which travels between UBC and downtown Vancouver, because of overcrowding.

Oddly, a tattered sign posted at a popular boarding location prods riders to consider taking some alternative — and yes, slower — routes.

I don't doubt that TransLink means well by posting such information. But it's also an admission that there's a capacity problem on the route — one it's so far unwilling to address.

The same story plays out on other bus routes in the region.

In the case of the No. 44, it's a shame one of Vancouver's most important transit routes is also one of its most woefully underserved.

Derek Moscato is a writer with a focus on urban issues, transportation, architecture and economics.

Metro Online Poll Results

Is the first ministers meeting in Ottawa a genuine pre-budget negotiation or a public relations exercise?

Weigh in on today's question at metronews.ca

7% SAID completely genuine
24% SAID mostly genuine
34% SAID mostly PR
34% SAID completely PR

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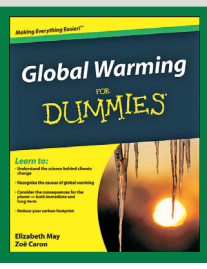
Going Green



Facts and fiction

Get the lowdown on global warming from the new book Global Warming for Dummies. Authors Elizabeth May (Green Party leader) and Zoë Caron explain the ins and outs of global warming and sort out the facts from the fiction. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: MIKE DEREZYCKY, MIKE.DEREZYCKY@METRONEWS.CA

Surfing linked to warming

Study finds carbon dioxide is released while viewing websites

Don't tell Al Gore, but surfing the web may also pose an inconvenient truth when it comes to hastening our environmental ruin.

That's among the findings of a recent study by Harvard physicist Alex Wissner-Gross on the environmental impact of Internet usage — a revelation that has, somewhat ironically, generated significant buzz in some quarters of the web.

In a yet-to-be published study, Wissner-Gross found that roughly 20 milligrams of carbon dioxide are released into the atmosphere for every second that an average website is viewed. That includes the energy used both on the surfer's end, including the electricity needed to run individual computers and the networks they connect to, and the energy used to create and host the content itself.

"At an individual surfer scale, the impact is not that large — about 50 per cent larger than a human exhaling," Wissner-Gross said recently.

"But in aggregate, for websites that get a lot of traffic, it can be substantial and it can be thousands of pounds of CO2 per month."

Though web surfing is not often thought of as a polluting activity, Wissner-Gross noted that a 2007 study by U.S. firm Gartner Research found the global IT industry generated about the same amount of greenhouse gases as the airline industry, which is about two per cent of total global emissions.

Wissner-Gross says he wasn't prepared for the swift reaction that his study generated.

That included a sharp response from Google after a British newspaper cited his study's findings and singled out the search engine giant as a key offender — namely because it directs individual search queries to multiple servers simultaneously in the interest of generating speedier responses.

Google, which handles about 200 million Internet search queries every day and controls about 65 per cent of the U.S. market, said in a blog posting that the company has "designed and built the most energy-efficient data centres in the world, which means the energy used per Google search is minimal."

While Wissner-Gross said Google was never mentioned specifically in his study, others argue the Web giant's green talk masks the fact that it remains a key contributor to a growing problem.

Ron Dembo, the CEO of Zerofootprint, a Toronto company that runs carbon offset projects, said Internet users need to realize their actions can come with a significant environmental cost, and they should think twice before entering a "frivolous" search query or streaming a goofy YouTube video.

"Here in Toronto, if you downloaded 100 megabytes of data ... and it's a nice hot summer day (when power demand is at its peak), you've just burnt a bag of charcoal."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Search

- Google claimed it would take more than 1,000 queries on its search engine to equal the greenhouse gas emissions generated by an average car driving one kilometre.

Obama plan attainable: IEA chief

ENERGY U.S. president-elect Barack Obama's aim to greatly increase U.S. alternative energy production is ambitious, but attainable, the head of the International Energy Agency (IEA) said.

As part of his economic stimulus plan, Obama wants to double output of alternative energy over the next three years.

"It is very ambitious, but he certainly can do that," IEA executive director Nobuo Tanaka told Reuters. REUTERS

News in brief

POLAR BEARS Scientists and native people in the Arctic want to protect Canada's polar bears despite disagreements over the health of the bear population, Environment Minister Jim Prentice said. Environmental groups want Canada to increase protection of the bears from climate change and hunting, but many Inuit who depend on the animals for income say the bear population is in better shape than scientists realize. REUTERS

Hope, change for climate

Don't tell Canada's Environment minister about "hope" and "change," the rallying cries of Barack Obama's election victory.

In the coming months, Jim Prentice must steer a complex proposal to essentially harmonize his government's much-criticized climate change plan with the one proposed by the Obama administration. The result will be a North American market for trading greenhouse gas emissions credits, giving companies the incentive to cut their carbon footprint.

To do that, Prentice will have to change considerably the Tories' environment blueprint and hope the hoopla over Washington's re-engagement in the global warming fight will bring the Conservatives the breathing room they have been denied for the last three years.

"The election of Mr. Obama and the determination and the clarity with which he has spoken on climate change really is a fundamental change in terms of the situation," Prentice said recently.

United States Presidential **Inauguration**

"I think it's fair to say that we are now in a position where the policy framework we're talking about as Canadians and the policy framework the new president has spoken about are very consistent."

Prentice believes Obama's America has come around to the Tory way of thinking on climate change.

But faced with a new U.S. administration that is stacked with climate change fundamentalists — people on a first-name basis with former vice-president Al Gore — it will be up to Ottawa to find religion.

The Obama team includes the likes of retired Marine Gen. James Jones, the proposed national security adviser, who touts the primacy of energy security and is well connected in Alberta's oilsands. But it appears more weighted with appointees like climate czar Carol Browner, who dubbed U.S. President George W. Bush's team "the worst environmental administration ever."

Watch for the Harper government's conversion to global warming orthodoxy that includes more stringent goals for cutting emissions, scrapping "intensity targets" — a measure that allows overall emissions to rise — long before the 2020 date it had planned, and signing on with some of the widely accepted standards that have left Canada isolated internationally.

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Denmark
Denmark yesterday unveiled a $17.79 billion US bank aid package, offering to inject public credit into banks to jump-start their corporate and private lending to stimulate a slumping economy. REUTERS

Business

Gas agreement on table

Russia and Ukraine aim to sign a deal today to restart gas flows to Europe through Ukraine after agreeing on a price for 2009 supplies. Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin said Ukraine will receive a 20 per cent discount from the price European customers pay, on condition Kiev froze 2009 tariffs for gas transit at last year's levels. REUTERS

EDITOR: FERMIN DESOUZA, FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Obama's job plan breaks cycle: Aide

ECONOMY U.S. president-elect Barack Obama's senior economic aide, Lawrence Summers, said yesterday he does not see the U.S. rate of unemployment topping 10 per cent.

The incoming director of the National Economic Council predicted job losses, but was confident Obama's economic plan would "contain what would otherwise be just a vicious cycle, people spend less, therefore they earn less."

REUTERS

In brief

ECONOMY Britain will suffer the biggest annual economic contraction this year since the end of the Second World War. Ernst & Young ITEM Club predicted a 2.7 per cent fall in gross domestic product.

REUTERS

Tough love for banks, Obama aide promises

U.S. President-elect Barack Obama will push bankers to resume lending to businesses and consumers to help put the ailing economy back on track, his top aides said yesterday.

"I think he is going to have a strong message for the bankers," said David Axelrod, a top Obama adviser. "We want to see credit flowing again. We don't want them to sit on any money that they get from taxpayers."

Axelrod said it was clear that a $700 billion US rescue fund approved by Congress in October "has to be administered in a much different way" than it was under outgoing President George Bush.

"Let's remember why we're in the mess we're in."
David Axelrod on the Bush administration

"We have to make sure the money doesn't go to excessive CEO pay and dividends when it should be going to lending," he said. Congress last week released the second $350 billion US slice of the Troubled Asset Relief Program.

Obama has put forward an $825 billion US stimulus package that is designed to create more than 3.5 million jobs in the next few years.

Republicans have criticized aspects of Obama's package as a throwback to what they call traditional Democratic borrow and spend policies.

Axelrod rejected complaints from the top House Republican, John Boehner of Ohio, that Obama had failed to consult adequately with Republicans and would not be able to generate enough jobs through the proposed plan.

"Let's remember why we're in the mess we're in," Axelrod said in a critique of the Bush administration. "Part of it is that when the Clinton administration left office, we were running record surpluses, and the policies that were put in place doubled our debt in a matter of a few years."

REUTERS

Taiwan **Economic stimulus**

REUTERS/NICKY LOH

People shop along a street market in Taipei on Saturday. The Taiwanese government distributed consumer vouchers worth $132 US to each citizen in a bid to stimulate domestic consumption and invigorate the country's economy.

Biotech company to test stem-cell therapy
Britain's ReNeuron Group has received regulatory approval to inject fetal stem cells into stroke patients with brain damage. REUTERS

Obama ushering in era of protectionism?

United States
Presidential **Inauguration**

The world economic crisis has increased chances the United States will erect new barriers to trade, but broad tariff increases, like those often blamed for causing the Great Depression, are unlikely, analysts said.

President-elect Barack Obama's criticism of China's currency practices, the North American Free Trade Agreement and other trade deals have raised concern his inauguration tomorrow could usher in an era of U.S. protectionism.

"I think President Obama is going to talk more about getting tough on trade than actually doing anything because I think he and his economic advisers realize it would be bad for the U.S. economy to raise costs for U.S. consumers and jeopardize U.S. exports abroad," said Dan Griswold, head of the free market Cato Institute's trade policy shop.

"I think (Obama) and his economic advisers realize it would be bad for the U.S. economy to raise costs for U.S. consumers and jeopardize exports abroad."
Dan Griswold

The U.S. recession increases the temptation for politicians to shut out imports as unemployment rises. Last year, the United States lost more jobs than in any year since 1945, at the end of World War II.

That could lead to protectionism in a number of guises. One of the worst things lawmakers could do is to include highly restrictive "Buy American" provisions in a proposed $825 billion US economic stimulus package now taking shape in Congress, Griswold said.

Lawmakers from steel-making states introduced legislation on Thursday that would require the Departments of Defense, Homeland Security and Transportation to buy U.S. steel in any construction jobs they execute.

But "enforcement" can easily become protectionism if the executive branch is allowed too much discretion to decide other countries are pursuing unfair trade practices that warrant U.S. import curbs, said Gary Hufbauer, senior fellow at the Peterson Institute for International Economics.

Typical of when the economy slips into recession, U.S. industries, like steel, are expected to flood the incoming Obama administration with requests for anti-dumping and countervailing duties on imported goods. REUTERS

Protest **Colourful opinions**

REUTERS/CHRISTIAN HARTMANN

Workers clean off paint from the headquarters of the Union Bank of Switzerland (UBS) in Zurich yesterday. According to Zurich's city police, a group of unidentified protesters hurled paint against the building on Saturday evening.

Treasury pick stands despite tax blunder

POLITICS U.S. President-elect Barack Obama "absolutely" stands behind Timothy Geithner, his choice for Treasury secretary, despite "a big mistake" involving his failure to pay some taxes, the incoming White House chief of staff said yesterday.

Geithner made a "big mistake," Rahm Emanuel, the incoming chief of staff, said in a interview on NBC television's Meet the Press. "But he's the right guy for this job," and Obama backs him "absolutely."

Obama said last week that Geithner, who as treasury secretary would oversee the tax-collecting Internal Revenue Service, had made an "innocent mistake."

Geithner failed to pay several years worth of Social Security and Medicare taxes from 2001 to 2004.

A Senate Finance Committee hearing on Geithner's nomination scheduled for last week was postponed until Wednesday after some senators demanded more time to consider the controversy, meaning Obama will start his administration without a Treasury secretary at his side during the economic crisis. REUTERS

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Henderson, Rua win; Kang falls at UFC 93

Dan Henderson and Mauricio (Shogun) Rua celebrated wins at UFC 93 in Ireland Saturday while Canadian Denis Kang was left to wonder what went wrong in his UFC debut. The Vancouver native tapped out in the second round after falling into a chokehold from his opponent, Alan Belcher. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Sports

Chan captures singles title

Patrick Chan of Toronto, left, captured his second straight singles title at the Canadian figure skating championships in Saskatoon yesterday. Jeremy Ten of Vancouver took the bronze, earning 134.97 points for his free skate for a total 204.03. On Saturday, Joannie Rochette of Ile-Dupas, Que., captured the women's singles title. METRO NEWS SERVICES

JOHN.CHICK@METRONEWS.CA

Rick Nash, Jackets cover Canucks

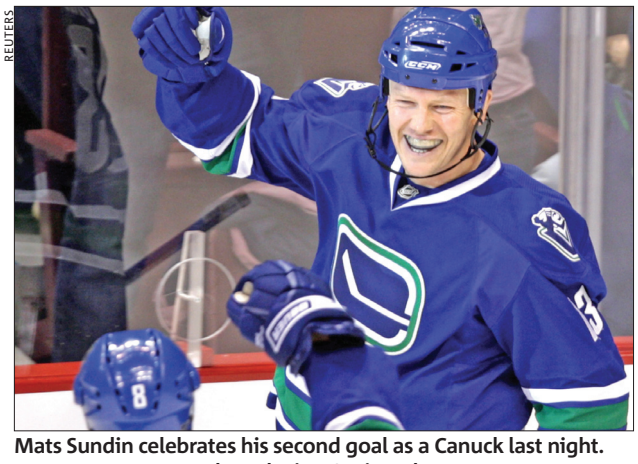
NHL RESULT

Jackets 6 **Canucks** 5 (SO)

VS

THE SKINNY: Rick Nash had a goal, an assist and the clinching goal in the shootout as the Blue Jackets beat the Canucks for the third time this season. Five different Canucks lit the lamp, but Vancouver surrendered a 3-1 second period lead as Columbus scored four goals in a span of 5:06.

REUTERS



Mats Sundin celebrates his second goal as a Canuck last night. Vancouver came up short, losing 6-5 in a shootout.

THE SWEDISH TOUCH: Mats Sundin may not be quite up to speed, but his second goal as a Canuck was a thing of beauty. Off the rush, Sundin took a pass from Pavol Demitra just over the blue line, faked a wrist shot and then beat a sprawling Steve Mason by roofing a backhand.

THE FASHION STATEMENT: Luongo debuted a new mask against Columbus. The off-white base is adorned with a Johnny Canuck logo above the cage, a stylized blue and green "V" that begins above each ear and a blue "C" to mark Luongo's captaincy.

THE MILESTONES: Rick Nash became the Blue Jackets' all-time leading scorer in a contest that was the 3,000th game in Canucks' history.

THE RATING: This wasn't a well-played game by either team, but there were numerous moments of excitement. ●● ● out of five pucks

THE NEXT GAME: The Canucks play their final game prior to the All Star Break in San Jose tomorrow night against the league leading Sharks.

SCOTT RINTOUL/FOR METRO VANCOUVER

Steelers, Cardinals Super Bowl bound

NFL ROUNDUP

Steelers 23, Ravens 14

Troy Polamalu's 40-yard interception return for a touchdown with 4:24 remaining in the fourth quarter sealed Pittsburgh's 23-14 AFC Championship Game win over Baltimore and catapulted the Steelers to their seventh Super Bowl appearance.

Ben Roethlisberger completed 16-of-33 passes for 255 yards and a score as the Steelers (14-4), moved ahead to take on NFC champion Arizona Feb. 1 in Tampa, Fla. The Cardinals topped Philadelphia, 32-25, earlier yesterday in the NFC title game.

The Steelers' Troy Polamalu makes the game-clinching interception in the fourth quarter yesterday.

Jeff Reed kicked three field goals for Pittsburgh and Santonio Holmes scored on a 65-yard catch-and-run play in the first half.

Baltimore's Willis McGahee ran 20 times or 60 yards and a pair of touchdowns, but was carted off the field on a stretcher late in the fourth quarter after a violent collision with Pittsburgh safety Ryan Clark.

CARDINALS 32, EAGLES 25

Tim Hightower powered into the end zone on an eight-yard screen pass from Kurt Warner late in the fourth quarter and the Arizona defence fended off Philadelphia's last-ditch efforts, as the Cardinals advanced to an improbable Super Bowl berth behind a 32-25 victory over the Eagles in an exciting NFC Championship Game.

After blowing an 18-point halftime lead, the Cardinals trailed 25-24 before putting together a meticulous 14-play, 72-yard drive that lasted nearly eight minutes. Hightower gained first downs on 4th-and-1 near midfield and 3rd-and-1 from the Eagles' 14-yard line.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Arizona's Edgerrin James celebrates yesterday.

Nash spreads the love

NBA RESULT

Suns 117 **Raptors** 113

VS

Steve Nash only finished with nine points but the two-time MVP dished out a season-high 18 assists and had a huge bucket in the waning seconds, as the Phoenix Suns handed the Toronto Raptors a 117-113 defeat.

Amare Stoudemire logged a game-high 31 points and Jason Richardson tallied 17 for the Suns, who won their ninth straight game against the Raptors and snapped a two-game skid.

Shaquille O'Neal and Matt Barnes each contributed 16 points in the win. "I was very pleased with the win and it is nice to see Steve [Nash] finish up the way he did," Suns head coach Terry Porter said.

Anthony Parker paced Toronto with 26 points in the team's fifth straight setback. Joey Graham dropped a career-high 22 points, while Chris Bosh recorded 20 points and 12 rebounds in another loss.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

REUTERS

Steve Nash is greeted by his former national team coach and Raptors bench boss Jay Triano yesterday in Toronto.

Panic time in Canucks nation?

ToulBox

Scott Rintoul

scott.rintoul@team1040.ca

Mike Gillis isn't panicking. Neither is Roberto Luongo. Canucks' fans on the other hand … well, let's just say the police have increased their bridge patrol these days.

As evidenced by last night's shootout loss to hard-charging Columbus, the Canucks problems have been visible for all to see. Inconsistent goaltending, a turnover-happy defence and constant line-juggling have resulted in eleven losses in the past 15 games.

The month-long stretch has undone much of Vancouver's impressive start to the season and left many wondering if they were simply seduced by a team that appeared to be a legitimate contender for the Northwest division.

So how much trouble are the Canucks really in? Based on the results of the past few weeks, there is plenty of reason for concern, and the reality of the situation confirms it.

Through 47 games, the Canucks have compiled 50 points and sit seventh in the Western Conference. Post-lockout history indicates that 94 points is the approximate cut for the playoffs, although last season's results brought that average down slightly. Simple math indicates the Canucks would need to pick up 44 points over the next 35 games to qualify for the postseason.

Their recent play might cause fans to question whether winning nearly 63 per cent of their remaining games is realistic, but a healthy Luongo, an improved Mats Sundin and a defence that plays anywhere near its resumé should be able to produce a playoff berth.

• It's official: Cam Wake has signed in the NFL. Wake inked a four-year pact with the Miami Dolphins worth $4.9 million, which includes a signing bonus said to be worth $1 million. It's the largest contract yet signed by a CFL player heading south and deservedly so. Wake was the CFL's Defensive Player of the Year in both of his campaigns with the Lions, racking up 39 sacks and 137 tackles in 36 regular season games.

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Metro Workology exclusive: Curtain Call
Don't miss Curtain Call, Metro's exclusive feature series in the Workology section. In the realm of death there are some interesting, lucrative and mysterious career opportunities; we will be digging up the stories for you, so check for Workology on Mondays and Wednesdays and Metronews.ca/work as well.

Workology

Athletics upgrade

The University of Victoria's board of governors has approved preliminary planning and a funding feasibility study for renovations to the school's aging sports facilities and the construction of a new athletics complex. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: DOUGLAS DUNLOP, DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

Preserving dignity for eternity

Curtain Call

BRIAN COULTON
for Metro Canada

On one episode of acclaimed HBO series Six Feet Under, Melissa Machado remembers watching one fictional mortuary worker morbidly engaging in a discussion with the body he was embalming on his table. Amid surgical tools and cosmetics, the body shockingly began to talk back.

Arranging director Joseph Peters and funeral director Melissa Machado at Humphrey Funeral Home.

After that, Machado says people began asking her if she ever talked to the bodies on her embalming table.

"They have to sell it, right?" says Machado, 29. "People look at my job and there's always that myth that goes along with it. It's really not what it is on TV."

Machado is a funeral director at Toronto's Humphrey Funeral Home and A.W. Miles Chapel. In a given week, she says she handles the remains of about five recently deceased individuals.

From initial disinfection of the body, through its preservation, to its restoration, it's Machado's role to ensure the body is given the same respect in death as it had in life.

"I do all the embalming, the dressing of remains, the casketing of remains, the (cosmeticizing) of remains, the ordering of supplies, ordering of caskets and articles as such to go along with that," she says.

Machado admits perfectionism is her greatest downfall. "My biggest struggle is that I never want to stop. I just keep striving to do better," she says. But Machado's meticulousness is warranted by the responsibility absolved of her by Humphrey arranging director, Joseph Peters, 41.

While funeral directors at some other homes are responsible for both embalming and directing funerals, at Humphrey, tasks are divided. Although he has filled Machado's shoes over his 21 years in the business, Peters now acts as the face of funerals, meeting with families and handling processional operations.

What the pair does have in common, however, is the background that brought them to Humphrey. Both Peters and Machado are graduates of the Funeral Service Education program at Toronto's Humber College Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning, the province's only institution other than Collège Boréal in Sudbury that offers training in the field.

The two-year program involves one year of academic learning in medical sciences, humanities and funeral-specific courses. The second year places students directly in funeral homes, where they are expected to complete a full internship. After college, graduates must be certified by the province by writing a test comprised of multiple choice and written questions, plus perform an embalming in front of a certified director.

"I wouldn't say that's a learned trait at school. Compassion is something you have to acquire."
Arranging director Joseph Peters

But despite official requirements, Peters says patience and compassion are requisite for all funeral directors due to the standard of respect shared by the industry.

"You have to not necessarily embrace these people and hug them and hold them but you need to be there for them … I wouldn't say that's a learned trait at school. Compassion is something you have to acquire."

For more of the Curtain Call exclusive series check the Workology section Mondays and Wednesdays or stop by Metronews.ca/work

As much opportunity as training in pathology

Curtain Call

JON TATTRIE
for Metro Canada

EDUCATION It's a long road from watching CSI to becoming a forensic pathologist. After a four-year undergraduate degree, usually in the sciences, students must complete four years of medical school and then a five-year residency in forensic pathology. That's 13 years of expensive education, but rewarding for those who stick to it, says Dr. Michael Shkrum, head of the Specialty Committee for Forensic Pathology at the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada.

"You have to have a healthy sense of scientific and intellectual curiosity and be willing to sort through some very difficult problems."

The training includes autopsies, microscopic assessments of specimens removed during surgery and cytology, the study of cells.

Until 2003, there were no accredited residency training programs in Canada, so pathologists went to the U.S. or the U.K. The Royal College now recognizes forensic pathology as a specialty and students can train in Toronto, with other centres to follow.

"We're hoping that program will generate at least two formally trained Canadian pathologists on a yearly basis," said Shkrum, who practices at the London Health Sciences Centre in Ontario. The training likely will stay in big cities so students can become experts in a wide range of cases.

"There are very exacting legal standards that have to be addressed, because the work of a forensic pathologist can be presented in court," he said.

There aren't a lot of forensic pathologists in Canada, Shkrum said, but plenty of work. "We're really hanging on by our fingernails at the various units across the province. They're undermanned and there's a large volume of cases that comes through."

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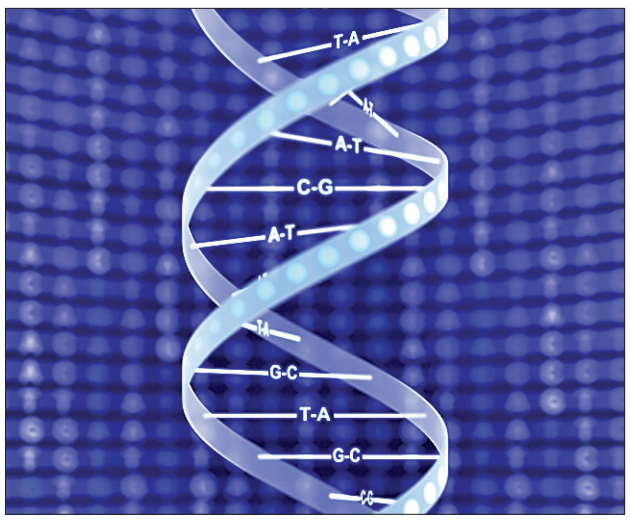
UOIT and Durham anticipate application boom
Because of the cooling economy, both the University of Ontario Institute of Technology and Durham College expect more applications for their fall programs. METRO NEWS SERVICES

It's all in (her) genes

Genetic counsellor helps families through tough times



Genetic counsellors work with kids with metabolic problems, sex chromosome mutations and cancer.

OddJobs

The Lowdown

Job title: Genetic counsellor

Salary: $65,000 to $85,000

Education: Masters degree in genetic counselling

Best part of the job: "Working with the families, learning from them, and learning about the science."

Worst part of the job: "Delivering bad news. And the paperwork."

In 1981, when Cheryl Shuman joined the staff at Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children, she was one of only two fully trained genetic counsellors in the entire country.

Today, the 54 year old heads a staff of 14, and is the program director for the masters programs in genetic counselling at the University of Toronto, one of four such programs in Canada. Her first job was also south of the border, as no one was using genetic counsellors here yet.

The entire profession is quite new. It was created in the 1960s in the U.S. when doctors found they needed someone to help them educate pregnant women about the risk for genetic conditions like Down's Syndrome. Shuman first read about the profession in a newspaper article in 1969, when she was in her last year of high school. After finishing a science degree at the University of Toronto, she enrolled in the masters program for genetic counselling at Sarah Lawrence College in New York, one of just a few schools offering such a program.

At school, Shuman learned about the science of genetics, and also took numerous counselling courses that dealt with a range of issues; such as how to break bad news, be culturally sensitive and assess how people are coping.

When she started at the Hospital for Sick Children nearly 30 years ago, Shuman worked in the prenatal program. Now, her clinical hours are devoted to families whose children have genetic disorders that make them grow larger than expected and, as a result of their genetic mutation, are also at higher risk for developing tumours.

While a doctor on her team does the physical examinations, Shuman takes a family history and orders blood tests. She then helps families interpret the results of the genetic tests, discuss how they'll cope if the child is diagnosed, and talk about risks for other family members. "We demystify everything and help people contextualize the information within their own families," she says.

She often sees families a few times, and sometimes they return later if they're considering a pregnancy or want another family member tested.

With almost every new client, Shuman checks the latest medical literature to make sure she's completely up-to-date. Genetic research is making new discoveries constantly. The Hospital for Sick Children now has counsellors working with kids with metabolic problems, sex chromosome mutations and cancer. In the future, the list will probably expand.

"At my job, there's always something new."

Diane Peters once hawked magic pens at the Canadian National Exhibition. She's now a writer and part-time journalism instructor.

Inspiration coming on a dime

When the going gets tough, the tough get more creative, a new survey suggests. Forty per cent of marketing and advertising executives polled said campaigns become more innovative when budgets are lean. Twenty-six per cent felt that tight spending had no effect on creativity levels.

The national study was developed by The Creative Group and conducted by an independent research firm. It is based on 250 telephone interviews with advertising executives randomly selected from the 2,000 largest advertising agencies and senior marketing executives randomly selected from the 2,000 largest companies.

Advertising and marketing executives were asked, In general, do you think advertising and marketing campaigns become more or less creative when budgets are lean?

"In a challenging economic climate, businesses rely on their marketing teams to develop campaigns that resonate with consumers who are more selective in their spending," said The Creative Group's Megan Slabinski. "Firms that lack the resources to support traditional marketing initiatives may be willing to go out on a limb and try something different."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Pete Wentz and Ashlee Simpson guest on CSI
Real-life husband and wife Pete Wentz and Ashlee Simpson have signed up to play Bonnie and Clyde-type wannabes on the CBS drama CSI:NY. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Entertainment

Star expecting

Rachel Griffiths, who stars on ABC's Brothers & Sisters, is adding another baby to her brood. The mother of two is pregnant with her third child.

PEOPLE.COM

EDITOR: DEAN LISK, DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

🌐🌐🌐🌐🌐 A CLASSIC; 🌐🌐🌐🌐 EXCELLENT; 🌐🌐🌐 GOOD; 🌐🌐 FAIR; 🌐 POOR

Box office

Mall Cop is the No. 1. film.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theatres:

1. **Paul Blart: Mall Cop:** $33.8 million US
2. **Gran Torino:** $22.2 million
3. **My Bloody Valentine: 3-D:** $21.9 million
4. **Notorious:** $21.5 million
5. **Hotel for Dogs:** $17.7 million
6. **Bride Wars:** $11.8 million
7. **The Unborn:** $9.8 million
8. **Defiance:** $9.2 million
9. **Marley & Me:** $6.3 million
10. **Slumdog Millionaire:** $5.9 million

REUTERS

Swayze released from hospital

PEOPLE Actor Patrick Swayze, the Dirty Dancing star who is battling pancreatic cancer, has been released from a weeklong stay at a hospital where he was treated for pneumonia, People magazine reported Friday.

Swayze, 56, was hospitalized in Los Angeles on Jan. 9, hours before he was scheduled to appear at a gathering of television critics to promote his new TV crime drama, The Beast, which premiered on the A&E cable network last week.

The actor stars as a rogue FBI undercover agent.

"I am happy to announce that Patrick Swayze is home after a brief hospitalization for pneumonia," his spokeswoman, Annett Wolf, told People in a report published on the magazine's website.

REUTERS

A tribute to horror classics

My Bloody Valentine 3-D delivers suspense, stunning digital effects

My Bloody Valentine 3-D

Director: Patrick Lussier
Stars: Jensen Ackles, Jaime King
Classification: 18A
Rating: 🌐🌐🌐

STEVE GOW
for Metro Canada

MICHAEL ROBERTS PHOTO

Jaime King, left, and Megan Boone in a scene from the new horror film My Bloody Valentine 3-D.

REVIEW I'm not sure why it came as a shock to me that I actually enjoyed My Bloody Valentine 3-D.

After all, I have a fondness for the gratuitous horror genre of the early '80s and since this is a revamped version of one such low-budget slasher pic, why wouldn't the nostalgia tweak a sense of fun? Toss in some stunning digital 3-D technology and bring on the pickaxe-flailing psychopath, I say!

A shocker about a murderous stalker who devastated a small mining town called Harmony, Valentine picks up 10 years after the psychopath is thought to have died. Guess what? He's back and nobody knows who's hidden behind the killer's mask. Could it be the duplicitous sheriff (Kerr Smith) or a young heir (Jensen Ackles) who has coincidentally returned to shut down the mine?

As much as this film is counting on the gimmickry of 3-D to fill seats, director Patrick Lussier (Dracula 2000) manages to avoid hanging himself solely on the gag and instead constructs a suspenseful homage to those earlier horror flicks while keeping the killer's identity hidden just long enough to carry the simple plot.

Lussier never takes the scares too seriously and captures campy, over-the-top dialogue and gratuitous, gory death scenes designed to maximize the stunning effects — there's nothing quite like seeing a head cut in two by shovel in digital 3-D. Sure, this Valentine is not for the faint of heart, but to paraphrase another's sage-like words — those who like it, will like it a lot.

Poehler's Spring Breakdown lightens Sundance

GETTY IMAGES FILE

Actress Amy Poehler attends the party for the screening of Spring Breakdown at the 2009 Sundance Film Festival last week.

U.S. comedian Amy Poehler's film Spring Breakdown lightens the economic gloom shadowing the Sundance Film Festival, premiering despite itself having been rocked by the financial crisis.

The comedy about three 30-something women who go on spring break — the wild annual vacation taken by U.S. college students — was made in 2006 but languished after its studio home shut down last year.

"We came here just to toss it out there," Rachel Dratch, who co-wrote the film and stars alongside her former Saturday Night Live TV show colleague Poehler, told Reuters.

"It was at (studio) Warner Independent for a while and then they closed and it's kind of been tossed around a bit. So this was a fun way of seeing it in front of a crowd and just getting it out there and having a celebratory moment with it," she said.

> **"It's not typical Sundance fare."**
> Amy Poehler

In 2008 the industry fell on hard times and Warner Bros film studio cut production and streamlined its operations as the economy slipped into recession.

Spring Breakdown cost between $10 and $12 million US to make and will likely appeal to women and gays, Poehler and Dratch said.

"It's a Sundance sorbet in between all the war and oppression," said Dratch, 42, referring to serious movies at Sundance, the top U.S. independent film festival started 25 years ago by actor Robert Redford.

"It's not typical Sundance fare," said Poehler, who left NBC's Saturday Night Live last year after giving birth to her son with husband actor Will Arnett.

Dratch said she wrote the film with director Ryan Shiraki with the goal of creating a "broad goofy comedy that stars women."

Last year Poehler starred in the movie Baby Mama with former Saturday Night Live partner Tina Fey. Next month she begins filming a new NBC comedy series from two of the producers behind the popular workplace satire The Office.

"I feel really excited about trying something new. Getting to be a little smaller and showing that side of what I can do, I'm excited about that," Poehler said.

REUTERS

Mayer on TV
Singer John Mayer has landed his own variety TV show. The guitarist is planning a pilot episode for CBS. Network president Nina Tassler said. "It'll be a music variety sketch show." **FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK**

Battlestar bidding

IntelleVision

rick.mcginnis@metronews.ca

THE GEEK GARAGE SALE: So were you shocked by Friday's return of Battlestar Galactica? Thrilled, bummed, confused? It's one down, nine to go — not including The Plan, the Edward James Olmos-directed movie, due to air after the final episode, which is actually set sometime during the first season, so it doesn't really count toward the show's finale. And then there's Caprica, the prequel series scheduled to debut next year, but let's not get ahead of — or behind, as the case may be — ourselves.

Word also came down this weekend that Matt Weiner has finally signed a contract that puts him at the helm of two more seasons of Mad Men, which will hopefully be as far as he's willing to take the show.

I've been gritting my teeth hoping that Ronald Moore and the rest of Galactica's creators wouldn't make that often invisible slip into hokey junk before wrapping up the series, and now I've got to worry that Weiner will pull off a decent denouement for his show and avoid the temptation to keep a steady gig. I'd like to think that both shows, in the end, will underline the case for limiting the lifespan of a TV series to four seasons at the absolute maximum, though in a perfect world two seasons should be enough.

Fans who, like grieving relatives or the lovelorn, can't let go, were probably bleeding their bank accounts this weekend at the auction of the show's costumes, props, sets and design drawings held in Pasadena, Calif., where you could pick up a Cylon Resurrection Tub (lot 799, estimated at $2,500-$3,500 US), a full-sized Viper (lot 347; $50,000-$60,000) or Adama's desk and accessories (lot 752; $6,000-$8,000.) The budget-conscious could settle for the pen Gaeta used to stab Baltar (lot 441; $400-$600, complete with dried stage blood), while you'll be a star at the next comic con with either an unnamed Viper pilot uniform (four lots from small to XL; $2,000-$3,000) or Kara Starbuck's flight suit (lot 111; $10,000-$15,000.)

Tricia Helfer

The real prize, however, was probably the red backless dress worn by Number Six, played by ex-model Tricia Helfer (lot 260; $10,000-$12,000), and probably only suitable for a very lean size one who's been spending a fair bit of time in the gym. Or a very willowy and extravagant transvestite whose tastes run to Darth Vader and not Marlene Dietrich.

Rick McGinnis writes about music, movies, books and television, but not opera.

In brief

NETWORKS Even with hits like Desperate Housewives and Grey's Anatomy, ABC is tightening its belt as it weathers the U.S. economic downturn and tries to remain relevant in an industry challenged by digital entertainment. ABC, a unit of Walt Disney Co, has lost about 9.7 percent of its prime time audience in the 2008-9 season compared with the same stage last year. **REUTERS**

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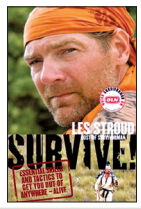
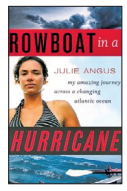
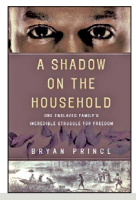


Survive!
Author: Les Stroud
Publisher: HarperCollins
Price: $21.95 (Paperback)



Rowboat in a Hurricane
Author: Julie Angus
Publisher: Greystone Books
Price: $22 (Paperback)



A Shadow on the Household
Author: Bryan Prince
Publisher: McClelland & Stewart
Price: $32.99 (Hardcover)

BookPicks

Survival, thank heavens, is a subject we're far more likely to encounter in a dramatic work than in real life. But for those do-or-die moments when you need to start a fire on a deserted island, brave a bone-chilling blizzard or forage for dinner in the middle of a hurricane, Les Stroud of Survivorman television fame has got you covered. In Survive!, Stroud presents detailed tips and helpful accompanying photographs on everything from building an appropriate shelter to finding something edible, as well as how to train your mind to attain the psychological state needed to help you live.

Canadian couple Julie and Colin Angus not only crossed the Atlantic Ocean in a rowboat, but survived four cyclones — including two that escalated into hurricanes — in the process. Rowboat in a Hurricane is Angus' account of the 10,000-kilometre journey, and she details not only the climactic challenges they met along the way but also their encounters with all sorts of unique critters, including the frigatebird and a giant sea turtle. To her surprise, the oceanic whitetip shark, once common to these waters, didn't put in an appearance — a sign of environmental ravage. Angus entwines science with intimate exchanges in this engaging account.

In the mid-nineteenth century, against the climate of American slavery, John Weems had one wish: For the nine members of his family to survive, together. The former slave had been able to buy his own freedom, but when his family's master died, profit-hungry descendants aimed to separate the family to sell. But his family members tried in their own way to reunite with Weems, including his daughter, who used the Underground Railroad to find liberty in Canada. Ontario slave descendant Bryan Prince pens this impassioned true tale of a family's eight-year fight for freedom in union.

BRIAN COULTON/ FOR METRO CANADA

VA	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime 1/19/09	251	308	3 CBC	Coronation St.	Jeopardy! (N)	Little Mosque	Sophie (N)	Being Erica "Plenty of Fish"		CBC News: The National (N)		(:05) The Hour
	255	358	6 JOY	E! News	The Insider	The Last Templar (2009) (Part 1 of 2) Mira Sorvino. (CC)				Momma's Boys (CC)		News (CC)
	254	-	8 M	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Omni News: Mandarin Edition		News: Cantonese Edition		Omni News: Punjabi Edition		Metropia
	250	321	9 CTV	etalk (CC)	Hollywood	Big Bang Th	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Corner Gas	CSI: Miami (N) (CC)		News (N)
	-	-	10 OMNI	The Daily	Frasier (CC)	The Practice (CC)		One Tree Hill (N) (CC)		Scrubs (CC)	Randall Mark	New Day
	252	336	11 GTV	Entertainment	ET Canada	House "Painless" (N) (CC)		24 (N) (PA) (CC)		Captain Cook: Obsession		News (N)
	256	389	12 VI	Instant Star	TMZ (N) (CC)	Gossip Girl (N) (CC)		Paris Hilton's My New BFF (N)		Paris Hilton's My New BFF (N)		News (CC)
	253	359	13 CITY	Law & Order: SVU		The Bachelor (N) (CC)				True Beauty (N) (CC)		EP Daily
	-	-	14 CW	Deal-No Deal	Deal-No Deal	Gossip Girl (N) (CC)		One Tree Hill (N) (CC)		Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Frasier (CC)
	289	381	15 CBS	Entertainment	The Insider	Big Bang Th	How I Met	Two/Half Men	Worst Week	CSI: Miami (N) (CC)		News (N)
	287	379	16 NBC	Evening Mag.	Inside Edition	Superstars of Dance The dance competition continues. (N)				Momma's Boys (CC)		News (N)
	602	568	19 W	Will & Grace	Friends (CC)	How Clean	Kim	Love It or List It		House	Smart Cookies	Maxed Out
	288	380	21 ABC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	The Bachelor (N) (CC)				True Beauty (N) (CC)		KOMO 4 News
	-	-	23 KVOS	M*A*S*H	Seinfeld	Miranda ★ (2002, Suspense) Christina Ricci, John Simm.				King	Still Standing	Scrubs (CC)
	291	383	27 PBS	Steves Europe	Antiques	Antiques Roadshow (N) (CC)		The Story of India (N) (CC)		The Story of India "Freedom"		Telling-Truth
	290	382	28 FOX	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	House "Painless" (N) (CC)		24 (N) (PA) (CC)		News (N) (CC)		Family Guy
	-	364	43 PBS	The Story of India "Freedom"		Keeping Up	Being Served	Tavis Smiley	Charlie Rose (N) (CC)		Antiques Roadshow (CC)	
	296	654	64 SBK	Frasier (CC)	Frasier (CC)	Punk'd (CC)	South Park	Cheers (CC)	Half & Half	The Insider	Entertainment	Paid Program
	298	653	65 TLA	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Gossip Girl (N) (CC)		One Tree Hill (N) (CC)		KTLA Prime News (CC)		Friends (CC)
	295	651	66 WGN	WGN News at Nine (N) (CC)		Family Guy	Two/Half Men	According-Jim	Sex and-City	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	My Wife-Kids
	297	652	67 WPX	PIX News at Ten Tong. (N)		Two/Half Men	Friends (CC)	Sex and-City	According-Jim	Frasier (CC)	Frasier (CC)	Odd Couple
	199	311	76 STR	News (N)	News		Late Show-Letterman		Late Late Show		Will & Grace	Will & Grace
news	502	390	26 NW	Doc Zone "Omar Khadr"		CBC News: The National (N)		CBC News: The National		Doc Zone "Omar Khadr"		National
	500	500	33 CNN	Anderson Cooper 360 (Live) (CC)				Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360 (CC)		Cooper 360
sports	407	419	22 RSP	World Combat League (CC)		Hockey	UFC	Best Damn Sports Show		Sportsnet Connected (Live)		Sportsnet
	400	400	30 TSN	Basketball	Tennis Australian Open -- Early Round -- Day 2. From Melbourne, Australia. (Live) (CC)							SportsCentre
	411	457	49 OLN	Bounty Hunter	Dakar Rally	Survivorman (CC)		Mantracker "Julio and Joe"		Bounty Hunter	Dakar Rally	Survivorman
	410	403	54 SCR	WWE Monday Night Raw		(:15) Score Tonight		WWE Monday Night Raw (CC)				Cabby Unlimit
	417	406	55 SC	Barrett-Jackson		Trackside	NASCAR Pre.	SuperCars	SuperCars	Car	Car	Auctions
	416	409	144 GLF	Gol TV News	Ole: La Liga		Legends	Footballers	Legends	Paid Program	Art of Football	Gol TV News
family	552	543	25 YTV	Scorpion	Prank Patrol	Malcolm-Mid.	Futurama	Prank Patrol	Zixx Level	Falcon Beach (CC)		Mystery Hnt.
	555	545	50 TEL	Totally Spies	Total Drama	6teen (CC)	6teen (CC)	Misadventures	Futurama	American Dad	Chicken	Life's a Zoo
	557	541	51 FAM	Wizards-Place	That's-Raven	Zack & Cody	Natural-Sadie	Han. Montana	Life Derek	Ned's School	Cory in House	Zack & Cody
	553	546	56 TRE	Comfy Couch	Rolie Polie	Max & Ruby	Babar (CC)	Backyard	Dora-Explorer	Go, Diego, Go!	Franklin	Comfy Couch
cable variety	268	354	5 KNO	Undersea	Landscape	History of Britain: British Wars		Eileen Gray: Invitation		My Different Life (CC)		Haida Art
	575	583	20 CMT	Hope & Faith	Hope & Faith	CMT Star	CMT Star	Home Imp.	Home Imp.	Reba (CC)	Reba (CC)	Hope & Faith
	570	580	24 MM	MuchNews	NewMusic	MuchVibe (CC)		So You Think You Can Dance Top 18 finalists perform. (CC)				Dance
	600	564	29 H&G	Price	Petal Pushers	Holmes on Homes (CC)		Property	Income Prop.	House	For Rent	Price
	615	520	31 A&E	Paranormal	Paranormal	Paranormal	Paranormal	Intervention "Kristen" (CC)		Intervention "Casie" (CC)		Paranormal
	628	584	32 SPKE	(6:00) The Hills Have Eyes ★★ (2006, Horror)			MANswers	CSI: NY "A Man a Mile"		Disorderly Conduct: Video		Videos
	521	560	34 TLC	Little People: Just Married (N)		Jon & Kate Plus 8 (CC)		Jon & Kate Plus 8 (CC)		Little People: Just Married		Jon & Kate
	616	522	39 SHO	The Outer Limits (CC)		Kink in Hair	Kink in Hair	Kenny-Spenny	Rent-A-Goalie	Name Is Earl	Testees (CC)	House (CC)
	620	523	40 BVO	Bravonews	McLauchlan	Law & Order "Judge Dread"		Without a Trace "Volcano"		Mi Vida Loca ★★ (1993) Angel Aviles. (CC)		
	601	562	41 SLC	Tim Gunn's Guide to Style		ET Canada	Matchmaker	Tim Gunn's Guide to Style		Trading Spouses		Biggest Loser
	520	505	42 DIS	Verminators (N) (CC)		Daily Planet (CC)		Dirty Jobs (CC)		Verminators (CC)		MythBusters
	522	506	44 HIS	NCIS "Once a Hero" (CC)		Battle 360 "The Grey Ghost"		Massacre at Verrieres Ridge		NCIS "Once a Hero" (CC)		Crime Stories
	627	528	45 SPC	Ghost Hunters (CC)		Stargate SG-1 "1969" (CC)		Star Trek: Next Gener.		Star Trek: Deep Space Nine		Star Trek: Ent.
	294	650	47 TBS	Name Is Earl	Name Is Earl	Seinfeld	Sex and-City	Sex and-City	The Out-of-Towners ★★ (1999, Comedy) Steve Martin. (CC)			
	619	525	48 TROP	TV Made	News Show	Tube Tales	Whatever	Make	TV Made	Planet Soap	Reality	Deal-No Deal
	603	561	52 FN	Hell's Kitchen (CC)		Chef School	Chef School	Challenge Candy castles.		Food	Road Tasted	Hell's Kitchen
	626	547	57 COM	Air Farce	Just for Laughs (CC)		Corner Gas	The Simpsons	South Park	Joan Rivers: Before Melissa		Daily Show
	320	621	60 CEN	Sanctuary "Sanctuary for All"		U.S. of Tara	Secret Diary	ZOS Zone of Separation		Brotherhood (CC)		Sanctuary
	581	566	101 MTV	The City	City Live After	MTV Live	MTV News	Bromance (CC)		The City	City Live After	MTV Live
	261	394	102 V	God Bless	God Bless	Poltergeist: The Legacy		I Was a Male War Bride ★★★ (1949) Cary Grant. (CC)				Paid Program
	-	-	109 MUL	Matchmaker	Mom's-Upset	It Will Be Difficult to Love		Marimar		Pinoy: That's Entertainment		Patrol World

critics'corner

House
Now here's a patient House (Hugh Laurie) can relate to. In this new episode, he and his team try to figure out what's wrong with a man suffering from chronic pain — something House has lived with for years. Foreman and Thirteen (Omar Epps, Olivia Wilde) deal with their budding relationship, and Cuddy (Lisa Edelstein) gets a lesson in juggling work and parenthood in the new episode "Painless." 5 PM on STR, 8 PM on GTV FOX

United States of Tara
What's so funny about dissociative identity disorder? If anyone can make it so, it's Oscar-winning writer Diablo Cody ("Juno"), the brains behind this new comedy series. Toni Collette ("Little Miss Sunshine") plays the title character, a wife and mother who has several alternate personalities, including a promiscuous teenage girl, a happy homemaker and a biker dude. John Corbett, Brie Larson and Rosemarie DeWitt also star. 8 PM on CEN

Boy George is sentenced to 15 months of prison
Former pop star Boy George (real name, George O'Dowd) was sentenced Friday to 15 months in prison after being found guilty for falsely imprisoning and beating a Norwegian male escort, Audun Carlsen. INTOUCHWEEKLY.COM

Celebrity Buzz

Winehouse pleads against divorce

DISPUTE Amy Winehouse has vowed she will not allow her husband to go ahead with his divorce plan, people.com reports.

Blake Fielder-Civil — currently in jail for assault and attempting to pervert the course of justice — has recently instructed a lawyer to file for divorce signaling the end of the couple's tumultuous union.

But the singer is quoted in the U.K. newspaper The Sun promising to fight that.

"I still love my Blake. I won't let him divorce me," she told the newspaper.

And explaining her recent behavior that has seen her hanging out with a rugby player-turned-actor Josh Bowman, Winehouse, 25, says that doesn't mean she is not going to have "some fun" and a "good time."

She made her comments during her extended vacation in St Lucia. In a break from her partying, she is pictured playing Scrabble as she chats about her life.

And she says she loves Fielder-Civil "because he's just like me."

"Blake is the male version of me. We're perfect for each other. I don't want to go back home to England. I want to wait for Blake here," she is quoted saying.

She says she has not been "doing drugs" and, speaking of Bowman, she added, "Josh was lovely. But it was a holiday thing. I've got my Blake."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

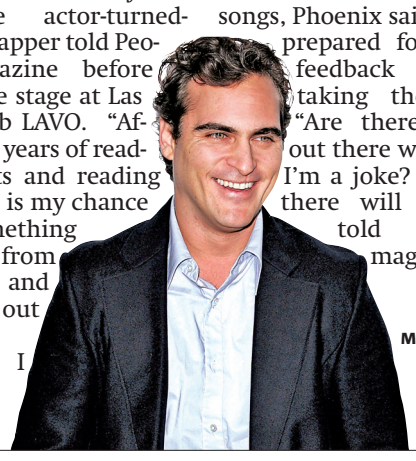
Joaquin delivers first music performance

CAREER After announcing his retirement from acting in October, Joaquin Phoenix made his first public foray into the music world Friday, saying he was ready to put his real self out there and not hide behind movie characters, people.com reports.

"This is me saying this is who I am. This is my story," the actor-turned-aspiring rapper told People magazine before taking the stage at Las Vegas club LAVO. "After all the years of reading scripts and reading lines, this is my chance to do something straight from the heart and put it out there.

"When I was young I liked punk rock music but then I discovered rap. I love the storytelling aspect of hip-hop."

Fluttering around the club's catwalk, Phoenix, 34, rapped to the sounds of a drumbeat and encouraged the crowd to dance, people.com reports. While the crowd cheered for the songs, Phoenix said he was prepared for mixed feedback before taking the stage. "Are there people out there who think I'm a joke? I'm sure there will be," he told People magazine.



METRO NEWS SERVICES

Action star Craig doesn't like guns

PEOPLE Daniel Craig doesn't like guns, reports femalefirst.co.uk.

The action star admits shooting holds no appeal for him, even though he fires off numerous rounds in his new film Defiance and plays trigger-happy British spy James Bond.

"I wouldn't touch a gun in my everyday life," he said. Craig's co-star Liev Schreiber — who stars opposite Hugh Jackman in upcoming comic-book adaptation Wolverine — mirrored the actor's sentiment.

"I don't enjoy firing guns, either ... even with fake bullets," Schreiber said.

Despite his fear of firearms, Craig has previously insisted he is never worried about performing dangerous stunts as Bond.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Portia calls marriage "peace"

RELATIONSHIP Five months after her wedding to Ellen DeGeneres, Portia de Rossi is declaring that marriage has "completely changed my life," people.com reports.

"Marriage is a different way of being together," the actress told People magazine on Friday while promoting her upcoming ABC series Better Off Ted.

Even though the couple has been together since 2004, tying the knot strengthened their bond.

"There's a peace to (being married) and a sense of togetherness that we just didn't have before. And I didn't even realize it would change as much as it has, but it's so lovely," said the actress.

"It's legal, and it's real, so there's that kind of formality to it that makes it very valid," added de Rossi.

De Rossi also holds out hope that other gay and lesbian couples will ultimately be able to enjoy the right to be legally married, a right that was repealed in California last fall shortly after their nuptials. "Every day of our lives is a protest against the passing of Prop 8," she said. "We're a happily married couple. It was kind of devastating, actually, when it passed."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Mel B collects socks

FASHION Mel B says she collects "silly socks," reports femalefirst.co.uk.

The former Spice Girl — who is the current face of Ultimo lingerie — loves wearing humorous socks to red carpet events and has been obsessed with peculiar footwear since she was a child, the website adds.

"I collect silly socks. I have done since I was 12," she says. "I like wearing them because it doesn't matter where you are. You could be at a premiere or something and you know that you're wearing socks that say the most ridiculous thing on them or have the most ridiculous picture. You can always keep your humour."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Drew admits she can't cook

PEOPLE Drew Barrymore makes her friends cook for her because she is such a bad chef, according to femalefirst.co.uk.

The He's Just Not That Into You actress admits she is clueless in the kitchen and so asks her pals to prepare food for her whenever they visit.

Asked how she coped when people come to dinner, Barrymore is quoted as saying: "I don't cook, I can't cook, and it is really abominable to see me in the kitchen. I order in takeaway food or get my friends to cook because a lot of them are very good."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Simpson uses perfume on hair

BEAUTY Jessica Simpson sprays her hair with perfume so she doesn't have to wash it, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The singer and actress was advised to only shampoo her long blond locks two or three times a month by her hairdresser Ken Paves, so she uses fragrances to cover the smell when her locks need a clean, the website says.

A source said: "Jessica's tresses are often greasy, but she hides it well."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Paris targeted by hackers

WEBSITE Paris Hilton has once again been targeted by hackers — her official website has reportedly been infected with a vicious computer virus, femalefirst.co.uk reports. The socialite's webpage, ParisHilton.com, is said to have been hit by a malicious program that attaches itself to the computers of anyone visiting the site.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Tuesday Sunny 7° / 1°
Wednesday Partly cloudy 6° / 2°

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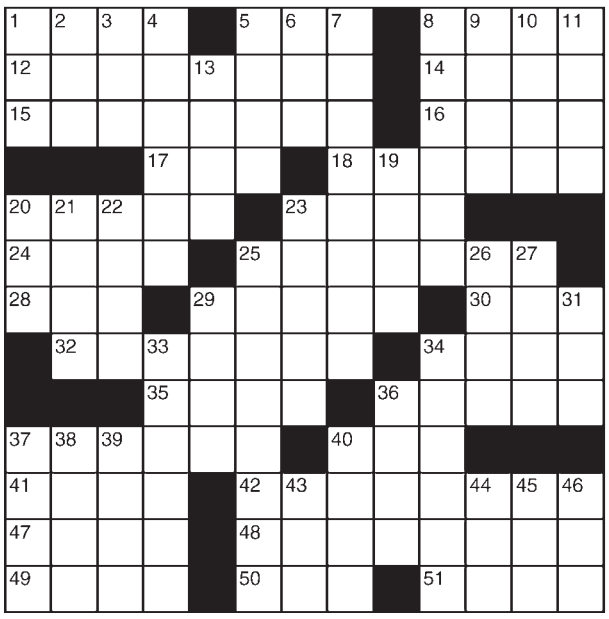
Take Five



Crossword across

1From a distance
5 One of the Seven Dwarfs
8 Plundered, old-style
12 Florida city
14 Eastern potentate
15 1991 "Top Gun" spoof
16 Workbench attachment
17 Automobile
18 Wrap
20 James — Garfield
23 Smile broadly
24 Follow relentlessly
25 "Henry IV: Part I" role
28 List-ending abbr.
29 Accommodation
30 Lawyer's pay
32 Red phone, maybe
34 Overly studious one
35 Foolproof
36 Waste maker
37 Slam-dances
40 Knight's address
41 Oppositionist
42 Areas of unrest
47 Cicatrix
48 Sorta
49 Superman's alter ego
50 Apiece
51 Info

Crossword down

1 Blond shade
2 — Schwarz
3 Illustrations
4 Impish one
5 Entryway
6 Mel of Cooperstown
7Audiotape
8 Make over
9 Send forth
10 Burbot or turbot
11 Shade provider
13 Counterfeit
19 Cleanse
20 Packed away
21 Dog owner's ordeal
22 Puerto —
23 Carried
25 Descendant's right, often
26 Venusian vessels?
27 Landlord's due
29 Sad
31 — out a living
33 Unisex garb
34 Distorted
36 Snake's sound
37 Fake face
38 Erstwhile
39 Laurel or Musial
40 Celebrity
43 Half and half?
44 Yoko of music
45 Recipe meas.
46 Witness

Sudoku

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

		5	7			2	6	
7						5		1
	8			6				7
	1				2	4		
			4		3			
		6	8				1	
1				7			3	
6		3						9
	4	9			5	6		

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

J	A	B	■	G	O	L	D	■	T	A	R	P
O	W	E	■	E	W	E	R	■	R	O	I	L
B	E	R	K	E	L	E	Y	■	U	N	T	O
■	■	M	I	S	S	■	■	P	I	E	T	Y
C	H	U	T	E	■	H	U	E	S	■	■	■
H	I	D	E	■	R	E	S	E	M	B	L	E
A	R	A	■	B	O	X	E	R	■	E	E	L
D	E	S	P	I	S	E	D	■	C	R	A	B
■	■	■	S	L	E	D	■	P	O	L	K	A
P	A	Y	E	E	■	■	D	E	L	I	■	■
E	S	A	U	■	B	E	R	N	A	N	K	E
R	I	N	D	■	A	R	E	A	■	E	O	N
M	A	K	O	■	Y	A	W	L	■	R	I	D

3	1	6	5	7	8	4	2	9
2	4	5	1	9	6	8	3	7
7	9	8	2	3	4	6	5	1
9	6	4	8	1	3	5	7	2
1	2	7	4	6	5	3	9	8
8	5	3	9	2	7	1	6	4
4	3	2	6	8	9	7	1	5
6	8	9	7	5	1	2	4	3
5	7	1	3	4	2	9	8	6

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SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:
Under 13 min .....Genius
13-17 min.....Scholar
17-21 min .....Smart
21-25 min .....Not bad
25+ min.....Keep practising

Metro Recipe of the Day

Chicken with mushroom sauce

INGREDIENTS:
1 tbsp (15 ml) olive oil
1 1/2 tbsp (20 ml) butter
4 boneless, skinless, chicken breasts, about 6 oz (175 g) each
Salt and black pepper
4 scallions
3/4 lb (375g) button mushrooms
1 tbsp (15 ml) plain flour
2/3 cup (150 ml) chicken stock
2/3 cup (150 ml) light cream

METHOD:
1. Preheat oven to low setting to keep chicken warm later. Put olive oil and butter into frying pan and heat until sizzling hot. Meanwhile, season chicken breasts on both sides with salt and black pepper.
2. Add chicken to pan and cook 2–3 minutes per side until golden, then reduce heat to low, cover and continue cooking 8–10 minutes, turning once.
3. Meanwhile, trim, rinse and thinly slice scallions. Clean and thinly slice mushrooms.
4. When chicken's juices run clear, transfer breasts to plate, cover and keep warm.
5. Add scallions and button mushrooms to pan, spread out and fry over moderate heat 3–4 minutes, or until softened.
6. Stir flour into pan and cook 1 minute, then add stock and bring to a boil, stirring constantly. Cook mushroom sauce 2–3 minutes, then reduce heat, add cream and stir. Return chicken breasts and juices to pan and heat through 2–3 minutes more.
7. Put cooked chicken breasts onto warmed plates, spoon over mushroom sauce, and serve them immediately.

SERVES 4

rd.ca
For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to **rd.ca** or check out **Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!**

Horoscopes

AVATAR VENUS

ARIES
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
Take a break to reorganize. Spend time with those who consider security first. A headache goes away when you make your wishes known.

TAURUS
APRIL 21-MAY 21
A lazy admirer will argue over personal beliefs. A righteous man talks of love. Your passionate wishes can come true.

GEMINI
MAY 22-JUNE 21
Someone will find the money for travel plans. Surrender to a winning argument. Forgive and forget after casting off your inhibitions.

CANCER
JUNE 22-JULY 22
You'll benefit from a time-out. Refuse to attend a painful meeting. A parent gets a monstrosity out of the way.

LEO
JULY 23-AUG 23
A traitor will encourage a coward. You'll smile while undergoing an indignity. You can decide that a compromise is for the best.

VIRGO
AUG 24-SEPT 22
Provide support for someone who is forthright. People are reluctant to socialize. A superficial person is excited by a compliment.

LIBRA
SEPT 23-OCT 23
A small man with good manners is due to arrive. A surprise leads you into a good situation. Be calm when there's absurdity all around.

SCORPIO
OCT 24-NOV 22
A brave guy creates a convivial atmosphere. Help someone to cherish a marvellous moment. A woman's confidence gets boosted.

SAGITTARIUS
NOV 23-DEC 21
A handsome guy is used to cheating. The true cost of a hidden agenda is discovered. Too much daydreaming causes chaos.

CAPRICORN
DEC 22-JAN 20
A woman is wrestling with hostility toward a rival. You'll have the solution if you're being positive. An unfortunate leader will not accept blame.

AQUARIUS
JAN 21-FEB 18
Don't get on people's nerves by being pushy. A heroic deed creates a spectacular change. Prepare to investigate a crazy idea.

PISCES
FEB 19-MARCH 20
Somebody is too unpredictable for words. Demand privacy when a loss of equanimity takes place. A suffering manipulator won't accomplish anything.

WORDY GURDY®

BY TRICKY RICKY KANE

Every answer is a rhyming pair of words (like FAT CAT and DOUBLE TROUBLE), and they will fit in the letter squares. The number after the definition tells you how many syllables in each word.

1. Maple tree goo on an atlas page (1)
2. High-school-aged person's denims (1)
3. Obstruct a group of sheep (1)
4. Overly amped tongue-twisting Peter (2)
5. Homer's wife's trash-hauling vessels (2)
6. More bleak and unsmiling pool user (2)
7. Mistake-free Lucy who played Xena (2)

ANSWERS
1. MAP SAP 2. TEENS JEANS 3. BLOCK FLOCK 4. HYPER PIPER
5. MARGES BARGES 6. GRIMMER SWIMMER 7. FLAWLESS LAWLESS

1-19-09

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INCLUDES roundtrip airfare and 4 nights 3-star accom on the Las Vegas Strip. **UPGRADE** to 4-star accom from $13 per night.

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INCLUDES roundtrip airfare, transfers, 2-day Ski Banff lift ticket and 3 nights accom within walking distance of downtown Banff.

Palm Springs — FROM **$489**
INCLUDES roundtrip airfare and 3 nights 4.5-star accom located in the foothills of Santa Rosa Mountains and features 90 holes of some of the country's best golf. Ask your Flight Centre consultant to book your tee time.

Hawai'i — FROM **$779**
INCLUDES roundtrip airfare and 7 nights 3-star accom in famous Waikiki. **ADD** Hanauma Bay snorkelling adventure from $25.

Holidays

CROATIA SAILING
FROM **$795**

INCLUDES 7 nights aboard a traditional Croatian sailboat, most meals and services of onboard captain and crew. **VISIT** Split, Makarska, Mljet Island, Dubrovnik, Kocula, Hvar, Brac and Milna.

South Africa Tour — FROM **$764**
INCLUDES all accom, transportation, most meals, tour leader and local guides on this 12-day small group tour from Durban to Cape Town. **HIGHLIGHT** Addo Elephant Park, Tsitsikama National Park, Cango Caves and wine tasting in Stellenbosch.

Belize Adventure — FROM **$859**
INCLUDES 3 nights accom in Ambergris Caye (San Pedro), local transportation, breakfast and local guides. **BONUS** snorkel adventure at Hol Chan Marine Reserve and Shark Ray Alley included.

Cruise Holidays

Southern Caribbean — FROM **$449**
INCLUDES 8-night Royal Caribbean cruise, onboard meals & entertainment. Sail from Colon (Panama) to Fort Lauderdale and visit Cartagena (Colombia), Santa Marta (Colombia), Oranjestad (Aruba) and Puerto Limon (Costa Rica). Port charges included. **UPGRADE** to oceanview stateroom from $8 per night.

Mediterranean — FROM **$729**
INCLUDES 7-day Norwegian cruise, onboard meals & entertainment. Sail roundtrip from Barcelona and visit Cannes, Valletta (Malta), Livorno (Florence/Pisa), Civitavecchia (Rome) and Naples. Port charges included. **UPGRADE** to oceanview stateroom from $37 per day.

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